



Governor Terry E. Branstad
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds
San Wong, Director

CRIMINAL & JUVENILE JUSTICE PLANNING ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

**Grimes State Office Building
400 E. 14th Street, Room B100
Des Moines, Iowa**

September 16, 2015

- Present:** Tom Ferguson, Chair; Mardi Allen; John Hodges; Mary Ingham; Michelle Leonard; Steve Lukan; Amber Markham; Lettie Prell; Kurt Swaim; Tony Thompson; Tom Walton; Doug Wolfe
- Ex-officio:** Hon. Romonda Belcher; Rep. Bob Kressig; Hon. Jeffrey Neary; Sen. Steven Sodders
- Staff:** Steve Michael, Division Administrator; Kile Beisner; Cheryl Davidson; Julie Rinker; Lanette Watson
- Others:** Cathy Engel; JoAnn Finkenbinder; Bill Freeland; Anna Hyatt-Crozier; Beth Lenstra; Andrea Muelhaupt; Marty Ryan; Dane Schumann; Alice Wisner
- Absent:** Kim Cheeks; DeAnn Decker; Mary Kovacevich; Sherri Soich; John Spinks

I. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Tom Ferguson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. A quorum was present. Introductions were made.

II. Approval of Minutes—May 13, 2015

Kurt Swaim moved to approve the minutes from the May 13th meeting, seconded by Mardi Allen. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. Division Update

Steve Michael reported the following:

- Staff changes: Sarah Johnson's duties have expanded to include research, grants, and supervision of AmeriCorps staff; Tammi Blackstone has been hired as Coordinator for the Criminal Justice Information Systems project; Kile Beisner has accepted a position as CJJP Research Coordinator, her former position has been posted.

- The FY17 state budget process has begun. A request to fund salary increases will be included with an otherwise status quo budget. The budget will be presented to the Governor in early December.
- Juvenile justice-related federal grant applications have been submitted. If awarded, the grants would provide programming and/or system changes for disconnected youth (Performance Partnerships Pilot) and reentry planning/community supports for youth returning home from the State Training School, PMIC's, or group care (Juvenile Reentry). Grant recipients should be announced by October 1.
- SAC (Statistical Analysis Center) grant—this year's application includes a request to work to improve the quality of Incident-Based Uniform Crime Report data collected through the Department of Public Safety. A second piece would create a portal for the Justice Data Warehouse that would allow the public to conduct aggregate data queries.
- An Iowa Girls' Justice Initiative planning grant has been awarded for deep-end girls. A task force will be seated to develop a plan and recommendations.
- Results First—Six individuals attended a national meeting to develop a plan for Iowa. Lettie Prell provided an overview of the project which currently focuses on cost/benefit and return on investment analyses for adult correctional programming. At the end of the national meeting, a plan was developed for Iowa to expand beyond the Department of Corrections into other areas of state government. CJJP would house the project.
- Juvenile Justice Reform & Reinvestment Initiative (JJRRI)—Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) analyses are being conducted on juvenile court programming in the 1st, 3rd, and 6th Judicial Districts. The project will expand to the 4th and 5th Judicial Districts.
- A customer survey was sent two weeks ago to a variety of individuals. Michael asked that the surveys be completed as soon as possible.

Rep. Kressig asked if any of the Iowa Girls' Justice Initiative recommendations would be shared with legislators during session. Michael responded that some data would be available. However, all of the recommendations would not be completed by that time.

Prell provided information on a statewide recidivism reduction initiative kickoff event to be held September 22 in the Capitol Rotunda. The Office of Drug Control Policy serves as fiscal agent; the Department of Corrections will conduct staff training and provide program and service quality assurance to reduce adult offender recidivism. A task force has been seated and will meet again on September 25.

IV. CJ Council Chair Position

Michael noted that Tom Ferguson, former Black Hawk County Attorney, has taken a position with the Iowa Attorney General's Office as the Prosecuting Attorney's Training Coordinator. The County Attorneys Association would most likely continue with Ferguson as their designee on this Council. However, Ferguson's new position includes lobbying on behalf of the Association which may align differently with CJ/PSAB positions. Michael asked for discussion.

Ferguson also wanted the matter brought to the Council's attention. He assured he would continue to voice concerns of the Council, even though there could be issues he

did not wholeheartedly endorse.

Members commended Ferguson for his years of service as Chair. It was noted that, due to their positions or employment, any member could have a conflict at one time or another.

After further discussion, Kurt Swaim nominated Tom Walton, a member of the general public, to serve as chair; seconded by Michelle Leonard. A voice vote was taken and Walton was elected. Walton will assume the role as chair at the next meeting.

V. Reports

• Legislative Monitoring

Kile Beisner asked members to review the draft reports distributed at the meeting and provide comments via email or by phone by October 30. At the November meeting, reports would be presented in a more final format.

Beisner clarified the following:

- Areas highlighted in yellow will be updated prior to releasing the final report.
- Synthetic Drugs/Data—Table 1: Accidental Poisonings Resulting in Hospitalizations and ER Visits—the number of hospitalizations and ER visits with a substance use diagnosis has increased substantially. Staff have verified the data with the Department of Public Health (DPH) and will continue to monitor. Several council members voiced concern that the data could include all drugs, rather than just synthetic drugs. Staff will contact DPH to verify.
- Table 5: State Residential Facilities Population and Waiting List Total Counts—2013 and 2014 data were unavailable. Prell responded that the data were for work release only, rather than the entire residential facility population.
- XV. Marijuana—staff asked for more direction on these two areas. Judge Neary would like historical information regarding the number of marijuana offenses, what was imposed, racial data, how charges have affected racial groups and an historical perspective. He suggested options/recommendations for statute changes be included and how the changes could impact the general public.

During discussion, suggestions included changing marijuana penalties to a civil citation for small quantities; racial impact concerns; crack v. powder cocaine; the number of drug-related parole revocations; risk assessments and judicial training. It was eventually determined that since the monitoring report reviewed current legislation, that the matter of legalizing marijuana in other states was more suited for the PSAB report.

• Five-Year Plan Update

Beisner reported that a five-year plan, which is part of an overall 20-year plan, requires an annual update report to the legislature. This year's report includes all CJJP initiatives, grant projects, and councils/committees.

VI. Relevance and Impact of Reporting

Michael asked for ideas on how to best reach legislators with the variety of information and ways to package it in a meaningful format.

Suggestions included:

- Results First—using this information to share what is working
- Survey legislators regarding needs/preferences
- Data should be more user-friendly and readable, using bullets as well as charts, etc.
- Reports should include executive summaries

VII. Issues for Next Meeting

The following issues were discussed:

Public Defense—Judge Neary asked whether it was under the purview of the Council or the PSAB to discuss the quality and public perception of public defense in Iowa. Discussion brought forth ideas including: attorney compensation and experience, number of cases assigned, assessment of attorney fees, collection and costs to defendants, misrepresentation, indigent defense funding, and costs.

Human Trafficking—Doug Wolfe suggested a future meeting include data, services available, child abuse prevention and treatment. Other members thought that some task forces will be established and that legislative changes will allow DHS referrals under CINA rules.

VIII. Adjournment

Swaim moved to adjourn, seconded by Leonard. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker
Administrative Secretary
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice planning